



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE
1435 N. Orchard St.
Boise, Idaho 83706

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 23, 2014

Barbara Ritchie
FMC Corporation
1735 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Re: FMC RCRA Ponds - CERCLA Unilateral Administrative Order for Removal Action, Docket No. CERCLA 10-2010-0170; Modification to Require Work Plans for Gas Extraction and Treatment and Additional Monitoring at Ponds 15S and 16S

Dear Barbara:

Section III, Task 2 of the Statement of Work (SOW), Appendix A of the above referenced Order required that FMC prepare Removal Action Design Reports for a gas extraction and treatment system at Ponds 8E, 15S and 17, and separately for any other RCRA pond where phosphine releases require gas extraction and treatment. In a letter dated October 5, 2012 EPA confirmed that FMC had met requirements of the Order with respect to gas extraction and treatment at Pond 15S, allowing FMC to discontinue gas extraction and treatment at that pond. In a letter dated February 21, 2013 EPA required Readily Implementable Interim Work Plans for gas extraction and treatment at Ponds 16S and 18A. FMC completed required gas extraction and treatment at Pond 16S in July, 2013, in accordance with the approved Work Plan, after maintaining source gas concentration in extracted gas under 2,000 ppm for two consecutive months. Required gas extraction and treatment at Pond 18A continues to this day, as we have had discussions about regulating the rate of gas extraction consistent with the approved Work Plan so that the source gas concentration is maintained at an acceptable low level, yet high enough to maximize carbon efficiency and keep the system running.

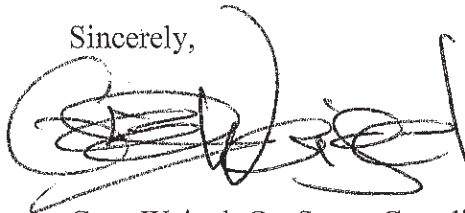
This letter is to transmit EPA's determination that re-initiation of gas extraction and treatment at RCRA Ponds 16S and 15S is necessary to protect public health, welfare and the environment.

Phosphine gas concentrations have risen substantially at RCRA Ponds 16S and 15S since earlier gas extraction and treatment ended at both ponds. Recent perimeter standpipe monitoring results in at Pond 16S was over 9,500 ppm, and appurtenance gas monitoring at Pond 15S showed concentrations inside the LS-01 enclosure over 350 ppm.

Section III, Task 2 of the SOW requires Removal Action Design Reports for gas extraction and treatment. Task 3 requires and specifies the necessary elements of Removal Action Work Plans. Table 1 under Section V of the SOW identifies the schedule and time frames when these documents are required. In accordance with Paragraph 76 of the Order (Modifications) I am modifying these elements of the SOW to require Readily Implementable Work Plans for the re-initiation of gas extraction and treatment at Ponds 15S and 16S to reduce and maintain phosphine concentrations at these Ponds to below 50% of the Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) in source gas measured at perimeter standpipes. Readily Implementable Work Plans are required for Ponds 15S and 16S by no later than June 10, 2014 such that they can be implemented within 48 hours upon approval. I anticipate that these Readily Implementable Work Plans will be consistent with earlier approved work plans for gas extraction and treatment at Pond 16S and 15S and with gas extraction and treatment at Pond 15S that FMC has initiated in response to the high appurtenance monitoring concentrations observed last week. Once initiated, gas extraction and treatment at each of the ponds must continue per the approved Readily Implementable Work Plan as necessary to maintain phosphine concentrations at below 50% of the LEL in source gas measured at perimeter standpipes. In addition, the Readily Implementable Work Plans shall provide for initiating gas extraction and treatment if gas extraction and treatment is not being conducted under the approved Work Plans and air monitoring surface scan or appurtenance monitoring concentrations at the pond measure at or above 0.3 ppm in ambient air, 1.0 ppm in leak detection, or 25 ppm in inside appurtenance monitoring. Additionally, Readily Implementable Work Plans (including the approved Readily Implementable Interim Work Plan for Pond 18A) must include an acceptable air (surface scan and appurtenance) and perimeter pipe monitoring schedule and frequency that provides for more frequent monitoring when concentrations are rising or elevated above levels requiring the initiation of gas extraction and treatment, and may provide for less frequent monitoring based on falling concentrations.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Weigel', with a large, stylized circular flourish on the left side.

Greg Weigel, On-Scene Coordinator

Cc: Janis Hastings, EPA
Kelly Wright, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Brian English, Idaho DEQ